

News Release



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NOTICE TO EDITORS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WASHINGTON, D.C. DECEMBER 1 -- The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs will present its fourth annual W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award jointly to Chile's movement for free elections and Democratic National Committee Chairman Paul Kirk. The award will be presented at a December 6 luncheon at the L'enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C. An 11:00 a.m. reception will precede the 12:00 noon award luncheon in the L'Enfant Ballroom.

The luncheon, chaired by Pamela Harriman, AFL-CIO President Lane Kirland and Minnesota businessman Mark Dayton, is co-hosted by 66 Senate and House members. NDI Chairman Walter Mondale will make the presentation to representatives of the Chilean free election movement -- Genaro Arriagada, coordinator of the campaign for the "No" vote in October's presidential plebiscite and Sergio Molina, leader of the Committee for Free Elections. Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-MA) will present the award to Paul Kirk. NDI Board Vice Chair Madeleine Albright will serve as master of ceremonies. Other speakers include Pamela Harriman, NDI President Brian Atwood and Luncheon Committee Chair Kenneth Melley, Government Relations Director of the National Education Association.

The W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award is given annually to individuals from the United States and abroad who exemplify NDI's commitment to democracy, internationalism and human rights. Past recipients have been John Hume, leader of Northern Ireland's Social Democratic and Labour Party, former Senator Thomas Eagleton (D-MO), Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA).

The National Democratic Institute is a nonprofit organization that conducts nonpartisan political development programs overseas. Established in 1983 by the National Endowment for Democracy Act, the Institute works with political parties and other institutions to promote and strengthen democratic institutions and pluralistic values in new and emerging democracies.

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